

Commissioner Jane E. Henney
FDA (HFE-88)
8600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, M.D. 20817

6311 Wilson Lane
Bethesda, M.D.
February 18, 1999

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Dear Commissioner Jane E. Henney,

I think irradiation is bad and dangerous. Even though it takes away the bugs and bacteria I still think it is bad. I think it should stop.

First of all, it costs a lot of money. "A \$430 Billion Food Processing Industry.....", said the National Food Processors Association. I think that is pretty expensive! It also costs 5 cents more per pound of meat when you buy it in the store.

Another reason is not everyone agrees with irradiation. Polls conducted show that as many as 54% of consumers considered it a hazard; 82% were concerned about it. I agree with them because I think it is bad and dangerous.

Last but not least, irradiation changes the flavor of some foods. "Such foods as cucumbers, peaches, leaf vegetables, and milk products either become soft or develop an 'off' flavor," writes Ken Scharabok in Countryside and Small Stock Journal.

The above three reasons are why I think irradiation is bad and should stop. I think many people agree with me.

Sincerely,

Joanne van der Vossen

Joanne van der Vossen

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